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a box-shaped structure having a plate portion and a side surface portion provided around said plate portion;

wherein notches extending from the edge of said side surface portion to a part of said plate portion are provided at a plurality of locations along the edge of said side surface portion; and

wherein said side surface portion is divided into projections by said notches, said projections having tips for conducting electromagnetic radiation to a ground, and said respective projections are supported by the plate portion with said respective tips being elastically displaceable during the shielding of said electromagnetic radiation

 Please cancel claim 18.

REMARKS

An Office Action was mailed on January 16, 2002. Claims 1-26 are pending in the present application. Claim 19-26 are allowed.

CHANGE OF ATTORNEY INFORMATION

The law firm of Helfgott and Karas, P.C. joined Rosenman & Colin LLP on September 1, 2001. The correspondence information for all current Helfgott & Karas files was changed with the USPTO by formal, electronic communication. This is to confirm that all future correspondence in this matter should be directed to Rosenman & Colin LLP, 575 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, 10022-2585, Phone: (212) 940-8800, Fax: (212) 940-8776. The attorney docket number has also changed to SCET 17.735 (100809-16164), and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner update such information in the PALM system.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102/103

Claims 1-3, 5 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Stickney et al. (U.S. Patent 4,754,101), while claims 4, 6, 7 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stickney et al. In addition, claims 8-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stickney et al. and further in view of Hood III et al. (U.S. Patent 6,049,469).

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Responsive thereto, Applicant has amended the claims to further clarify the distinctions between the present invention and the prior art. Specifically, Applicant has provided that the tip portions project partially outwardly to make resilient surface contact with a ground. Support for such amendment is amply found in the original specification and drawings (see, for example, the illustration of FIG. 4B).

Stickney et al. discloses a shield having a plurality of pins disposed around the perimeter of the plate, with each pin extending downward through a circuit board. The Examiner is analogizing the pins 18,20 of Stickney et al. with the connecting strips of the claimed invention. However, this appears to be an overly broad interpretation of claim 1 since claim 1 requires that each of the connecting strips of the plurality are bent so that the tip portion projects from a surface of the covering plate. Stickney et al. does not teach a bent connecting strip tip portion, as the pins of Stickney et al. only project downwardly through the board. The only bent portions of the Stickney et al. pins are the flanged ends, which are not the conductive tip portions as required by the claims. Once projecting downwardly through the board, the Stickney et al. pins are grounded as provided in column 5, lines 4-10.

On the contrary, the connecting strips of the present invention have elastic tip portions, such that tip portions make secure, surface contact with a grounding element by resiliently contacting the grounding element (in the drawings, grounding pattern 201 for example) without required a fixed connection between the two like in Stickney et al (see column 5, lines 4-10 of Stickney et al.). The benefits of the present invention over a fixed system like in Stickney et al. are clearly described in the specification of the present application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Stickney et al. fails to teach or reasonably suggest an electromagnetic shielding plate for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part of an object comprising a conductive covering plate and a plurality of connecting strips provided along the edge of said covering plate, said connecting strips having tip portions adapted to conduct electromagnetic radiation from said plate to a ground, wherein each of the connecting strips of the plurality is bent so that the tip portion thereof projects partially outwardly from a surface of the covering plate and is adapted to make resilient surface contact with a ground, as provided in claims 1-16

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Claim 17 has been amended through the incorporation of all of the elements of claim 18 and further providing that the tip portions of the projections are elastically displaceable during the shielding of said electromagnetic radiation. Again, Stickney et al. fails to teach or reasonably suggest such an arrangement, but instead teaches downwardly directed, fixed tip portions.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to teach or reasonably suggest an electromagnetic shielding plate for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part of an object comprising a box-shaped structure having a plate portion and a side surface portion provided around said plate portion, wherein notches extending from the edge of said side surface portion to a part of said plate portion are provided at a plurality of locations along the edge of said side surface portion, and wherein said side surface portion is divided into projections by said notches, said projections having tips for conducting electromagnetic radiation to a ground, and said respective projections are supported by the plate portion with said respective tips being elastically displaceable during the shielding of said electromagnetic radiation, as provided in claim 17.

With respect to the §103 rejections based on the combination of Stickney et al. and Hood III et al., it is respectfully submitted that such rejections are overcome by the claim amendments are argument present above. In addition, while the Hood reference show upwardly and downwardly extending contact fingers, such fingers are not disposed around the circumference of a plate. Furthermore, one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine the Stickney et al. and Hood references as suggested by the Examiner because the Stickney et al. tip portions are fixedly grounded and would not benefit from the resilient fingers of Hood.

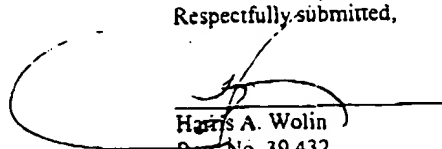
For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above amendments and remarks, and in addition to already allowed claims 19-26, it is believed that claims 1-17, consisting of independent claims 1 and 17 and the claims dependent therefrom, are in condition for allowance. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is

respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED APPLICATION - 09/658.198

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (AMENDED) An electromagnetic shielding plate for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part of [the] an object comprising:
a conductive covering plate [formed of a conductive plate]; and
a plurality of connecting strips provided along the edge of said covering plate,
said connecting strips having tip portions adapted to conduct electromagnetic radiation from said plate to a ground;

wherein each of the connecting strips of the plurality is bent so that the tip portion thereof projects partially outwardly from a surface of the covering plate and is adapted to make resilient surface contact with a ground.

17 (AMENDED) An electromagnetic shielding plate for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part of [the] an object comprising:
a box-shaped structure having a plate portion and a side surface portion provided around said plate portion;

wherein notches extending from the edge of said side surface portion to a part of said plate portion are provided at a plurality of locations along the edge of said side surface portion; and

wherein said side surface portion is divided into projections by said notches, said projections having tips for conducting electromagnetic radiation to a ground, and said respective projections are supported by the plate portion with said respective tips being elastically displaceable during the shielding of said electromagnetic radiation.